

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A thermally sensitive recording medium comprising, ~~a thermally sensitive recording medium providing~~ having an undercoating layer containing a pigment and a binder as main components and a thermally sensitive recording layer containing a colorless or pale colored basic leuco dye and a color developing agent, which reacts with said basic leuco dye, as main components on a substrate, wherein said undercoating layer contains carboxymethyl cellulose ~~whose~~ having an etherification degree ~~is~~ of from 0.55 to 0.75, and ~~said undercoating layer further contains~~ hydroxyethyl cellulose.

2. (Currently Amended) The thermally sensitive recording medium of claim 1, wherein the pigment is calcined kaolin ~~whose~~ having an oil absorption, as determined by JIS K5101 ~~is, of~~ from 80ml/100g to 120ml/100g.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The thermally sensitive recording medium of claim 1, wherein the B viscosity of a 2% aqueous solution of hydroxyethyl cellulose is 300 mPa·s or less.

5. (New) The thermally sensitive recording medium of Claim 1, wherein the binder consists of at least one member selected from the group consisting of starch, polyvinyl alcohol, methyl cellulose, styrene, maleic anhydride, an

emulsion of a styrene-butadiene copolymer and an emulsion of an acrylic acid copolymer.

6. (New) The thermally sensitive recording medium of Claim 1, wherein the carboxymethyl cellulose and the hydroxyethyl cellulose are contained in a total amount of 0.5-5.0 parts per 100 parts of pigment.

7. (New) The thermally sensitive recording medium of Claim 5, wherein the carboxymethyl cellulose and the hydroxyethyl cellulose are contained in a total amount of 0.5-5 parts per 100 parts of pigment.

8. (New) The thermally sensitive recording medium of Claim 1, wherein the hydroxyethyl cellulose has an etherification degree of from 0.8-2.0.

9. (New) The thermally sensitive recording medium of Claim 1, wherein the B viscosity of a 2% aqueous solution of the hydroxyethyl cellulose is from 5-300 mPa·s.